

Great Britain and Ireland. Parliament.

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HUMBLY PROPOSED,

To the CONSIDERATION

OF THE

Honourable the MEMBERS

OF BOTH

HOUSES of PARLIAMENT:

By an *English* WOOLEN MANUFACTURER,

To Pay the National Debts, without a new Tax, to enlarge Trade in general, by Reviving and Securing for Time to come, the *British* WOOLEN Exportation Trade, and preventing the Running of BRANDY, TEA, &c. in; And to improve all waste uncultivated Lands, within his Majesty's *British* Dominions.

L O N D O N:

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HUMBLY PROPOSED,
To the CONSIDERATION, &c.

May it Please Your HONOURS,

IT IS with the greatest Submission
humbly supposed, That as the Na-
tional Debts are not small, paying
them off, (or but a Part first) would
silence the Enemies, and please the
Friends of this Kingdom; especially if done
without any New Tax.

And as our Trade in general, and our Woolen
Exportation Trade in particular, have been on
the Decline many Years; Reviving and Se-
curing it, for Time to come, would be as
pleasing to all that wish well to this Trading
Kingdom.

Therefore no small Happiness, if every Subject would consider, that Trade is the^r Grand Source of this Kingdom's Wealth and Power; and that therein our Landed and Trading Interest is now so intervoven, that the Loss of the one must, and does, in a sensible Part, affect the other.

And that 'tis the various Manufacturies carried on, especially such for Exportation, that is the Life thereof; and that our Woolen is the Grand Wheel, that gives Motion to all else: When that stands, all is stagnated; as 'tis in return for our Woolen Goods exported, that we Import Raw Silk, Mohaire, Yarn, Linnen, Thread, Cotton, Wool, and Spanish Wool, when a free Trade; and various other Materials, for carrying on the many other valuable Manufacturies and Trades, for Home Consumption and Exportation, which otherwise would drain Us of Cash, as the French Trade does now, and no Gains.

By which our numerous Poor, Time past, was fully employed, and the Cash earned, and by them expended, for Necessaries of Life, circulated through all Trades, and so to the Farmer and Grazier; which have not only paid our Rents, but also greatly enriched the Kingdom in general.

Looking back, less than 100 Years, on the Trade then and now, tho' much on the decline, will fully evince, how greatly valuable our Woolen Exportation Trade is.

But if look back a little farther, when this, (now Trading) Kingdom, was a Stranger to the great Gains, since acquired by Manufactory, and Exporting our Woolen Goods; and to the
many

many other gainful Manufacturies introduced thereby, and the Duty paid to support our Government, on the return Imported: And also, Consider how great the number of our Merchant Ships are now, and few then; and the Grand Rental of our Lands now and then; and number of our Inhabitants now and then.

And also, that then it was found necessary, in order to support our Landed Interest, to encourage the Exporting our Wool. in Wool, by a Law, as the Produce of our Lands, as now we do our Corn; to which if add, the Consideration of the Riches and Grandeur of this Kingdom, now and then; and therefore if there is not a thousand Times more real Cause now, if a due Regard is had to our present and future Welfare; either respecting our Landed or Trading Interest; to prevent our Wool being Exported, in Wool especially. If 'tis also consider'd, that it being first Manufactur'd, Exporting it in Goods, the Value of our Labour is also Exported, which is a great Part of our now Native Wealth Exported with it, which is a general Gains to the Kingdom, in the Returns Imported.

London, nor no one Trading City, or Town, or Sea Port, was what they are now, and the number of Acres of our Land then cultivated, What was they to what they are now? Or their Rents? therefore loosing our Exportation Trade the grand Means of our Wealth would leave us, in a much worse State than it found us; as by the acquiring so much Riches have learnt us a different Way of Life, than in Time past this Kingdom was enured to; which to return to, would not be pleasing to Rich or Poor.

Loosing

Loosing our Trade, which is in the greatest Danger, would soon reduce us: For if our Rivals can Sell but five *per Cent* cheaper, now they are come to make tolerable Neat Goods; they will in Time, cut us out of what Trade we have left; notwithstanding we have, within Thirty Years, sunk our Wages upward twenty *per Cent*; and sinking yet lower, is as needful now as then, to hold what Trade we have; but that would still increase the National Loss.

Should the State of the Kingdom, be what the Loss of our Trade would introduce what would be the State of our numerous Poor, already; and to them would be added no small number of Servants, (then through Necessity) that numbers of Tradesmen, and some Gentlemen Landholders, must be oblig'd to discharge; and the many Tradesmen, that now are dependant, would then stand Idle.

And if our working Hands are not employ'd, instead of the Money earned, and circulating through Trade, and so pay our Rents, they must have a Supply, at least of one Shilling, in lieu of not earning two, which would be three loss to the Kingdom; which must greatly inhaunse our Poor Rates, which are already in some Parts, above the Land-Tax; which must of Necessity, first sink our Rents, and then our Riches, Strength and Power in general.

And therefore, as your HONOURS well know, preventing so great a Loss, took in Time, is much easier than recalling Trade back; 'tis with the greatest Submission humbly prayed, and hop'd, that it will come under the Wisdom and Power of Parliament this Session.

Your

YOUR HONOURS

Are fully apprised, that the Wealth of this Kingdom does not alone consist in Trade, but also in the Goodness and Fertility of our Lands, and great Skill and Industry of our Landholders; which evidently appears, by observing that in most Parts of the Kingdom, there has been large Tracts of waste Lands, for an Age or two past inclosed, and by Industry, made to bear great Crops of Corn; and that notwithstanding such an Addition of Lands, the old Inclosiers bear their Rents; fully evincing, that both Landlords and Tenants finds their Account therein.

In some Parts of this Kingdom, as well as in *Ireland*, there are yet large Tracts of waste uncultivated Lands; such that now produces light or no Gains to the Crown, or to Subjects; which if inclosed, by the Skill of our *British* Landholders, would be made some good Arable other Pasture, and some good Meadow Lands.

Some of those Lands, in each Kingdom, lies now in Forests, Chases, Heaths, and some Mountainous; others in Loughs, Bogs, Moors and Fens; some large Tracts cover'd, in some Seasons, with Land Waters, and some with Sea Waters; some invested in the Crown, others in private Interest; yet not in their Power to inclose, without a Power from Parliament: And some of them might be made Valuable Lands, but would need a joint Interest and Purse, to drain, and inclose; which if done, would be a general Advantage, to the Kingdom and Undertakers.

In some of the dry Lands there are Timber Trees, which need not hinder the inclosing; by
either

either valuing them, or cut down those that are fit : Even such Timber Trees that are in the new Forest in *Hampshire*, where the Timber is good ; yet when cut down, for his Majesty's Use, at the Docks, it comes dear, as tho' bought out of some of the Neighbouring Estates : And 'tis a general Opinion, in those Parts, that the Timber in the Forest now, that is least, is not so good as such in the Neighbouring Estates, nor so well nurs'd up.

Therefore with Submission, even in that Forest, the Trees need not prevent the Inclosing of the Land there, especially where the Trees are thin ; and where they are thick, might be inclosed for Timber, for his Majesty ; and the other Part, that now produces light or no Gains to the Subject, but a certain Yearly Charge to the Crown, if inclosed, would be of a general Advantage.

The number of Acres, of waste uncultivated Lands, in each Kingdom, some compute to be upwards of three Millions in each : But suppose, exclusive of Parish Commons, the Quantity in *Ireland* is no more than two Millions and a half, and in *Great-Britain*, but two Millions, those Lands, if set out in Lots, and Sold at a moderate Price, to such that may see it their Interest to purchase, would produce upwards of seven Million Sterlin.

Therefore with Submission, considering the present Circumstances of this Kingdom, especially respecting her National Creditors, the Interest low, and yet may be lower, and a Part of the Capital Annually paying off, and no plenty of Ways and Means for the Subject to employ such Money : What can be more
for

for the Advantage of the Kingdom in general, and Subject in particular, then to expose such waste Land, in both Kingdoms, to sale in Lots, and the Purchasers to pay for their Purchases, by such of the National Debts, that they are, or may interest themselves in.

The Purchasers would then have *Terre Firma* in their Hand, and a Power to make Improvements, that may in Time, produce good Rents to them selves and Posterity.

To come at the real Quantity, and present Value of such Lands, in each Kingdom, with Submission, would not be very difficult, if the Government sent out proper Persons, to take a Survey, in each Kingdom, of the Quantity of all such Land, in each Place, the Parish, the Nature of the Land, the present Value, the Charge of inclosing, and what Worth when done, and in whom invested, and make their respective Report next Session of Parliament:

And then fix a Time, to invite all Subjects, that have any such Lands in each Kingdom, to come and Treat with such that may be Commission'd by the Government, to purchase those Lands of the Subject; and such Purchases to be paid them, by such a Part of the present Funds that may be appointed, at the Interest they then stand at:

Which done, and all such Lands invested in the Crown, then to set all out in Lots, in each Kingdom; suppose in Lots of 500 Acres, and fix a moderate Price, as a Yearly Rent, *per* Acre, as Worth, more or less, agreeable to the Nature of the Land, and Place where, and Charge that would attend it; and suppose also,

20 Years Purchase, for the Fee-simple, with a small Quit Rent, Yearly, and free of all Taxes, and Parish Rates, for seven Years.

And that such Purchasers shall pay for their Purchases, by such of the National Debts that he is, or may interest himself in; and for their Incouragement, that the Interest on such Funds should continue to be paid them, for two or three Years, as though the principal Money was not paid off, supposing in that Time, the Lands may be inclosed.

And that in each Kingdom there be an Incorporated Society, with all needful Power, for each Purchaser that may need a joint Interest and Purse, to drain and inclose their Lands purchased.

And with Submission, some in each Kingdom, might be invited to be Purchasers, was a Title of Honour annexed to each Lot: As Presidents, even in this Kingdom, there are, of raising Money on Emergencies, by granting Titles. *Viz.*

In the Year 1611 King *James I.* Instituted an Order of Baronets, each paying about 11,100*l.* to incourage the Peopling of the Province of *Ulster*, in *Ireland*; the number of Baronets was upwards of 200: Much the same was in *Scotland*, in the Year 1625, for settling a Colony in *Arcadia*, or *New Scotland*; and a Lottery was drawn in *St Paul's*, for promoting a Colony in *Virginia*; and the Republic of *Venice* rais'd, by creating 78 Nobles 1,700,000*l.* Sterlin; and the *Dutch* have took in Subscriptions for inclosing Tracks of Lands.

Notwithstanding the Quantities of such waste Lands, in each Kingdom, and their present

sent Value, cannot at present be ascertained, no more than the Sum that the Sale thereof would pay off; yet some probable Estimates, and Calculations may be, as humbly under attempted.

Supposing that the waste Lands in *Ireland*, some good, some middling, some bad, are valued at one Shilling *per Acre*, on a medium, *per Year*, when set out in Lots; and that three Pence *per Acre* is added, for the Title to be annexed, which makes one Shilling and three Pence the Yearly Rent of each Acre, on a medium; or 31*l.* 5*s.* the Yearly Rent of each Lot of 500 Acres, on a medium, though some may be worth more, and some less.

Selling each Lot at twenty Years Purchase, will for the Fee-simple, on a medium, be 500 Pounds; and for the Title 125 Pounds, for each Lot of 500 Acres, 625 Pound, on a medium; by which, selling 2,500,000 Acres, of such Land, in *Ireland*, the Purchase Money would be 3,120,000 Pounds Sterling.

And supposing that the waste Land in *Great Britain*, on an Aviridge, are worth at present, one Shilling and six Pence *per Acre*, as the Yearly Rent, and six Pence *per Acre* be added for the Title to be annexed, which makes it two Shillings the Yearly Rent of each Acre; or 50 Pound *per Year*, for a Lot of 500 Acres, on a medium.

Selling each Lot at 20 Years Purchase, would be 750 Pound for the Fee-simple, and 250 Pounds for the Title, which makes for each Lot, on a medium, 1000 Pound; by which selling in *Great-Britain* 2,000,000 Acres, of such Lands, the purchase Money would be 4,000,000 Pound Sterling.

And if suppose that the waste Lands in both Kingdoms, that are now invested in the Subjects, and yet have no Power to inclose, without the Charge of an Act of Parliament, and purchasing them by the Crown did produce no greater Sum than 500,000 *l.* and that paid by a Part of the National Debts, the general Estimate, for both Kingdoms, would stand as follows. *Viz.*

By the Sale of 2,500,000 Acres, in <i>Ireland</i> , will be paid of ———	3,120,000
By Sale of 2,000,000 Acres in <i>Great Britain</i> , would be paid of ———	4,000,000
And by the Purchases of — Acres from Private Interest, will be -	0,500,000
	7,620,000

Suppose the Titles of Honour annexed to each Lot, was in some such Method.

To each Person that purchases but one Lot,
that of a Gentleman.

To each Person that purchases but two Lots,
that of an Esq.

To each Person that purchases but four Lots,
that of a Knight.

To each Person that purchases eight Lots,
that of a Baronet.

A Baronet's Title would cost 2000 *l.* in this Kingdom, now; which is not so much as 1100 *l.* was in the Year 1611.

And with Submission, suppose that to each Lot a certain Price was fixt, agreeable to the
Land

Land, and where it stands: And also a Number, and the Purchaser draw, and the Number he draws, that Lot that comes up against his Number to be his Purchase, in that Kingdom that is drawing.

And that each Person shall, previous thereto, draw only Numbers, to see what shall be his Turn, in drawing for the Lot, either 1st, 2^d, 3^d, or twentieth Person; and that when a drawing, for either Kingdom, to draw as many as he pleases, and then the next; and the Lots in *Ireland* to be drawn first.

Or suppose to each Lot, a Price and Number annexed, and put up by Inch of Candle, and Sold to the best Bidder; by which each Person would buy what he liked best, in each Kingdom.

Sinking the National Debts, 7,620,000 *l*. and no new Tax, and not a Penny Loss to the Crown; if a small Quit-Rent, agreeable to the Value of the Lands, be still paid; and as it would be a certain growing Gains to the Purchaser, it must be a pleasing View, to all that wish well to this Kingdom, and it would create a Hope, that by some such pleasing Method, the remaining Part of the National Debts, would in Time, be paid off.

By putting up to Sale the vast Quantities of waste unclear'd Lands, in his Majesty's Dominions in *America*, which would greatly secure those valuable Colonies, in that Part of the New World; especially, if previous thereto, some Forts was built, in needful Places, as a Security against all Events, both by Sea and Land.

A Country

A Country of 2000 Miles, trasing it on the Sea Coast, from *Newfoundland* to *Carolina* and *Georgia*, and considering the vast Tracts of Land, on that Continent, behind the Colonies, and the Colonies, Trade, and Duty paid, how on the Return from thence; no Expencc can be too great to secure those Colonies.

Some compute, that within the Boundries of those Colonies, that there is now upwards of sixty millions of Acres, of waste unclear'd Lands; some invested in the Crown, and some in the Subjects: Was a Purchase made by the Crown, of the Subjects, of such not clear'd, and then all set out in Lots, of 1000 or 2000 Acres, in each, and Sold at a moderate Value, each Lot, the remaining Part of the Debts might be paid off.

Newfoundland is a large Island, containg about 15 million of Acres, the greatest Part yet unclear'd; and in that Island are many good Ports and Bays; the Island has been this Kingdom's near 200 Years; and now about 400 Families are employ'd about the Fishery, at the Season, a Trade that is of considerable Value; for which the Island is very much couvited by our Neighbours.

As that Trade and Island is capable of great Improvements, the Ships and Vessels, now employ'd, are about 700, and Seamen 6000, and Yearly Gains deemed upwards three hundred thousand: Erecting some Forts would not be a needless Charge, as not many Years past, a Neighbouring Power, with a small Force from *Europe*, destroyed the Settlements then there.

To People that Island, and prevent all Foreigners. and absolutely securing the Island
and

and Trade, would not, with Submission, the establishing a Society, out of such of the National Creditors, that might see it their Interest to become Purchasers, and be Incorporated with needful Power, (and if a Power to fish on the *British* and *Irish* Coast, also was added, as their Agents would always be on the Island) the Trade would be secured; and by Forts there contiguous with the Island, Cape of *Breton* might be a useful Barrier, in Case of a New War.

And as the number of Criminals transported Yearly, to other Colonies, are not small, suppose such of them that the Company might approve of, and would rather go there, might be transported there; and be under some Restriction; but have their Liberty, and some Utenfils gave them, to settle them, and Land assigned them.

The Company's Agents, that would be always on the Island, setting out proper Places for those People to settle in: When they are enured to the Climate, they would be of great Use; and produce great Gains to the Company, and this Kingdom: And many of them would find Friends here, knowing they are to have Liberty to Act for themselves that would furnish them with many Necessaries; and if a Husband would take his Wife, &c. with him, a million or two of the National Debts might be paid off thereby.

By

By resuming, the Consideration of this Kingdom's sinking Trade, and fixing on some Method to restore, and secure it, for Time to come,

Your HONOURS

Will please to observe, that even in this Kingdom, there are some that will hardly acknowledge that our Trade in general, have been many Years declining, and that the Woolen Exportation Trade is, as the grand Wheel that gives Life to all else, and much less that any Wool is run; alledging that there is a great Plenty of Wool Abroad, especially in *France*.

Your HONOURS

Are fully appris'd, by your Tenants, that they have, and do now, more sensibly feel the Effects of a sinking Trade, and the Trading Part of the Kingdom assign no other Cause but the great decay of Woolen Exportation: And the Manufacturers can assign, by long Experience, no other Cause, but that of ours and the *Irish* Wool being run out, and Manufactured Abroad, and those Markets supplied therewith, cheaper than our Merchants can, notwithstanding we have sunk our Wages, upwards twenty *per Cent*, in a few Years past, yet as much occasion to sink now lower, as then, if we hold what Trade we have,

Lowering our Wages yet lower, would in a manner starve the lower Class of Poor, and greatly advance our Poor Rates, that is already in many Places, higher than the Land-Tax; and in the room of two or three Shillings not earned, one must be give, and that would
but

but set us and *France*, in respect of Labour; but on a Parr: But preventing the running of ours, and the *Irish* Wool, would absolutely prevent any from being our Rivals; especially in neat fine Woolen Goods: For then we should have all, and much more; we should then have the finest Wool also, which now is run out of both Kingdoms, to *France*, and there intermixt with other Wool, which makes the Loss still the greater.

'Tis certain there is Wool in most Countries, and some very good; but none, (by a happy Climate, as God has been pleas'd to indulge *Great-Britain* and *Ireland* with;) in its Native Goodness, adapted to the making of all Sorts of neat Woolen Goods; and especially that in *Ireland*, more adapted for fine thin Goods, for warm Climates: The Wool grown in other Countries, are either fine and short; or if a good Staple, coarse, harsh, brittle, and very much mixt with a grey or blackish Hair; by which no Quantities of fine, good, nor good Colours can be made, without either ours, or the *Irish* Wool.

By looking back, no farther than the *French* War, in King *William's* and Queen *Mary's* Reign, of glorious Memory, when *Spain* was our Allie; Your HONOURS will be fully surpris'd how good our Trade was, when *France* had none of our Wool: Then our Wool and Goods bore a good Price; and tho' the Taxes was high, yet paid with Cheertulness, as not felt by a good Trade.

But on the short Peace, the latter End of King *William's* Reign, we soon saw the Consequence; Wool and our Trade fell, and it

has been sinking ever since. The *French* soon re-assumed their Woolen Manufactory, and have held it ever since; for during the War, in Queen *Anne's* Reign, there was Quantities of Wool run out of both Kingdoms, under many Disguises, and many a Ship Load of Wool took by consent, at Sea, by the *French*, from both Kingdoms.

And at that extraordinary Time of the Plague in *France*, little or none was run; and then our Trade was good, Wool bore near double the Price it has ever since; tho' great Quantities was Imported then from *Ireland*: a pregnant Instance, of the real Cause of the declining State our Trade is in now, as *France* supplies those Markets twenty *per Cent* cheaper than we can.

Our Wool does now bear some Advance in Price, since the Queen of *Hungary* has prohibited Trade with *France*; but the Price is above Trade; as 'tis not a general Trade, every one is ready to catch at every Opportunity, and many Manufacturers now Sell to Loss.

Some Advocates in this Kingdom, for *France*, makes this little Start on Trade, a Plea for *France*; Saying, 'Tis now evident the great Outcry of the Wool being run- is nothing; our Trade is good, and for *France* she wants no Wool.

That may be too true, that *France* wants no Wool; if 'tis fact, as some do affirm, that she has now, from this Kingdom, and *Ireland*, more than a Year's Wool by her; and the Advance, on the present Price of Wool, cannot be accounted for, from the Trade; and no way can it be, but from the Wool run out of each Kingdom; and the Farmers, that are full of Money,

Money, will not Sell but at an advance Price, presuming, that in case of a general War, Wool will advance.

Certainly the present Start on Trade, can be no Reason against preventing the running of Wool, if it was a general Trade; but this Trade cannot be long lived, as *France* have took off all Duties on her Woolen Goods exported; well knowing as She can Sell so much cheaper than us, her Goods will soon find a way through her Neighbours, into *Germany*; which with Submission, is a strong Reason for, instead against preventing the running of our Wool.

Unless it can be demonstrated, that exporting the Wool, in Wool, is a general Gain to this Trading Kingdom, or to any one Subject; for tho' the clandestine Trader may Sell Wool, at twenty *per Cent* Advance; and buy his Wine, Brandy, and Teas. &c. twenty *per Cent* under the Market Price; yet 'tis no Gain, whilst he is selling his Birth-right, as a *Briton*, and ruining his Native Country.

Or until 'tis demonstrated that manufacturing our Wool, and exporting the Goods, and employing the Poor, and exporting thereby the Native Wealth of this Kingdom, the Effect of our Labour in the Goods, and importing the Returns, is a general Loss to this Kingdom; and in particular to the Landed Interest. It must remain to us Manufacturers, as a Mystery, why the running of ours, and the *Irish* Wool, is not prevented, and especially, as it would enrich both Kingdoms, and 'tis in our Power;

The *English* Woolen Manufacturers did some Years past, to the Satisfaction of a Committee of Parliament, demonstrate that every ten Pounds worth of Wool, on a medium, exported in Wool, especially out of *Ireland*, was a Loss to this Kingdom in general, of one hundred Pounds: And then they had, before the said Committee, Eye Witnesses of Wool Ship'd in *Ireland*, *Scotland*, and *England*, that saw the said Wool landed in *France*, &c. and that they helped working it up for the Manufactory Abroad, in some sort of Goods, with an equal Quantity, and some double, of Wool, that would not of itself, make tolerable *English* like Goods.

And proof was also then made, of Yarn and Wool, pack'd and enter'd out, as *Balkey* Woolen and other Goods; and Ship'd even from *London* some to Parts Abroad, where was no Manufacture kent, for the sake of a Profit, where it was wanted.

With Submission, 'tis evident that the general future Welfare of this Kingdom cannot take Place, so long as any Wool is run, and worth observing that the Wool grown in *Ireland* is generally a deep Wool, and 'tis the best of that which is run; and one Pack of that being run, is as great a Loss to this Kingdom, as five Packs of our short cloathing Wool, if run; as that gives so much more Labour in manufacturing, and most Service to our Rivals, and would be to us.

And as evident, no Law will be duly executed in *Ireland*, unless 'tis for their Interest; they being a People faithful to what they deem so; and the *English* Manufacturers, have by
a long

a long Experience found, that the Wool and Yarn, imported from *Ireland*, is of a very great Advantage in their making so neat and cheap Goods, for Exportation: And was none run, it would be much more so, as then they should have the best also.

And that Spinning is the dearest Money earned, in all the Parts of Manufacturing, especially Spinning in *England*, such Yarn imported from *Ireland*: But was none run, a full Trade would fully employ all the Poor, in this Kingdom, in Spinning, and other Work; much more to theirs and the Kingdom's Advantage: It being ever observed, that when most Wool and Yarn have been imported from *Ireland*, then it bore a Price here, and all Hands full of Employ, the Effects of a good Trade.

As Self-preservation in private Life, is a Natural Duty, it must be so as to the future Welfare of this Trading Kingdom: Then with Submission, as the present Riches, Grandeur and Power of this Kingdom, was acquired by Trade, and nothing but Trade can support it; it would be our greatest Happiness, if we really herein, copied after the *French*, who are so diligent in encouraging their Trade, in every Branch; and value none therein but themselves: And had they such a Jewel as our Wool, they would not suffer a Lock to be run; as deeming it not only their Duty, but absolute Interest, to promote their future Good separate from all other Views:

Experience being the best Guide, with Submission, as under the several Means proposed, to prevent the running of Wool; some having been tried, and others not, are enumerated,
that

that Your HONOURS may, the more easier conclude, what would be effectual. *Viz.*

In the Reign of King *Charles II.* several Laws was made, and still in Force, against running of Wool, &c. but of little Effect; in the Reign of King *James II.* a Power was gave by Letters Patent, to a certain number of Trading Subjects, to put the Laws, against running of Wool, &c. in execution; and in the first Year of King *William* and Queen *Mary's* Reign, by an Act of Parliament, a Power was gave, to a certain number of Trading Subjects, to put those Laws in execution; and the Preamble of that Act mention'd the Cause, which still subsisteth; *viz.* The Remissness of the Publick Officers, or rather, with Submission, their not doing, what is not in the Power of any Law, yet in being.

But neither of those Powers, tho' much good was done, proved effectual; they having no Power to raise the necessary Charge thereof, from others of their fellow Trading Subjects, to carry it on.

Since that, a Law took place, for a Register, a Coast Register, to Register all Wool at sheering Time, in *Kent*, and *Sussex* only; and much Good was done at first, so far as those Limits extended; but soon it was found of little Service; as other Wool, grown out of those Limits, found their way, in a clandestine manner, within those Limits.

After that, a general Coast Register, all round the Kingdom, was under Consideration; but in as much, as that in *Kent* and *Sussex*, was render'd of little Service, by the Wool growing out of those Limits, so a Coast Register
round

round the Kingdom, would be by the Wool growing more in Land, in other Parts of the Kingdom, it was deemed not worth putting in Practice, as nothing but a general Register, in all Parts of the Kingdom, would be effectual.

Some Time after, a Scheme for a General Register in both Kingdoms, was humbly laid before the Parliament by an English Manufacturer, and a Committee was appointed, and the Scheme approved of, as it was for a General Register, but as the Method of executing it, was by the Excise-Office, and a charge attending it, in the Executing, for permit, an Officer to attend at the Subject Houses often, it was not pleasing to the Trading, nor Land-ed Subjects, and therefore not put in practice, but the Armed Sloops, on the Coasts of *Ireland* was order'd, by which little or no Service has been done, tho' no small Charge.

Since that, various Methods have been propos'd, one for erecting Ware-Houses in each County, and all Wool at Sheering Time, to deposited there, under the Care of Publick Officers, and Sold out at his Majesty's Charge; at 2 *d.* for all Wool, to be Bought by his Majesty, and Sold out when the Subject wanted it, at 3 *d.* for a Duty of Five Shillings, to be laid on each Pound Weight of Wool, but not to be Paid, but continued on from Hand to Hand, until Manufactured, and then Discharged a 4th for a Duty to be Paid, and a draw Back on all Goods Exported, which must to the Wool grower have been a dead Charge, until the Wool was Sold, and many Corruptions in each would have Crept in, and not one Pack of Wool the less Run.

And

And 'tis Evident without a general Register, there would be no certainty in the 1st. that all the Wool grown, was brought to the Publick Ware-Houses; in the 2^d. how would it be certain if all was bought; and in the 3^d. If the Duty of Five Shillings, was laid on all; and in the 4th. If the Duty on all was Paid, without a General Register, and what but a general Register will take Knowledge of all Wool, and Yarn, in each Person's Custody and what use 'tis put to.

Also a 5th. for a Bounty to be paid, as now for Corn, on all Woolen Goods exported; forgetting that our Merchants want no prompt to export, could they but Sell, at the Foreign Markets, their Neat Goods, as cheap as our Rivals, which they cannot, so long as our Wool, and our best Wool too, is work'd up twenty *per Cent* cheaper than we can; and had there been a Duty of *Cent per Cent* on the Wool, and paid; yet the *French* could afford to give it, rather than loose their Trade; as the Wool is but one sixth Part of the value of the Goods: And five Parts the Manufacturing, as so much Money earned; by which they gain, by every Shilling's worth of Wool, run, five; if the Wool was in price double, then they would gain, by the bare Manufacturing four, besides what gained by exporting the Goods, which we should have none run. Therefore with Submission, no Method but a general Register, will be effectual.

'Tis evident, that in the very Infancy of our Woolen Manufactory, for Exportation, Your HONOURS Ancestors had a very great Care how to improve it; and that it might be

be carefully preserv'd, order'd Wool Packs to be the Seats, in the grand Senate House; that it might always be in View: And by observing the Preambles of Acts of Parliament, made in King *Charles's* Reign, not only Sheep and Wool, but even the Fullers Clay was prohibited being exported, even into *Scotland*, that our Rivals should no way hurt us; and in particular, not sink the value of our Lands: which every Act made since, have had Regard thereto.

By the Address of Parliament, to his Majesty, and His Majesty's Order, to the Commissioners of Trade, to form a Scheme for a general Register, is a Demonstration, that your HONOURS was of the Opinion, that nothing but a general Register would be effectual, and a Scheme for such, for both Kingdoms; would humbly be laid before the Parliament, when addmitted thereto.

Many other Proposals have been made, as Necessity is the Mother of Inventions, but all have terminated in a general Register, only differently executed, and with Submission, nothing short of a general Register, in each Kingdom can be effectual, and that which is executed at least Charge, and in the most pleasing Method, no way contrary to the Method of Trade, with no Inconveniencies nor Burthen, but rather a Help to the Trader, and done as by themselves, must not, cannot be disagreeable.

And a general Register, that will, in a friendly Method, first by a general Entry, take Knowledge of all Wool in each Person's Hand, in each Kingdom; and then yearly, duly Register all shorn at sheering Time;

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and

and all Wool when pull'd from the Skins kill'd, and not done by Force, but by Consent; it will be impossible any can be run, but it will be known, and the Quantity, and by whom, and if any will do it, he will pay the Penalty; and that will cure the Malady, for Time to come: For 'tis not with Wool as with Exciseable Liquors, Malt, or Teas; that if any Quantity is missing it may be made good, by more made or imported. But of Wool, there is but one Crop in a Year; and when that is known, and the Quantity in each Person's Hand, at first, no Man's Stock can be diminished, or increas'd, but the Register must know it; as every Pound of Wool will still be in his View, until 'tis Manufactur'd; as will evidently appear, by trasing over the said Friendly General Register, as propos'd to be executed in each Kingdom; and done in this Kingdom, at no Charge to the Government, and at a very small Charge to the Trading Subject: And in *Ireland*, in a Method absolutely encouraging to the Trade of this Kingdom; and it will be a Means of putting a Stop to the running of Brandy and Teas in.

YOUR HONOURS

Will please to observe, that Time past, the giving to *Ireland* any Incouragement, as to her Wool, have been by some opposed; forgetting that they are a Part of ourselves; and also, that of our own Necessity: As preventing our own Wool being run, and not theirs also, would be of no Service; and now, we instead of gaining something, by their Wool, we are great Loosers: and loosing our Trade also: Therefore there is an Absolute Necessity, that both
theirs

theirs and ours, be prevented being run; which appear more and more every Day, if the number of our Poor, the badness of Trade, and height of our Poor Rates are consider'd.

Some have thought it would be needful, to give *Ireland* a general Power to manufacture all her Wool, and export in Goods; provided no more Wool or Yarn be Run, for then we could be Rival'd by no more Goods, than that Wool did make; But now, as 'tis run, we are rival'd, at least, by double the Quantity of Goods, that Wool by itself would make.

Others think, as *Ireland* is part of ourselves, and that when *Scotland* became one Kingdom with us, by that happy Union: *Scotland* had Wool, and still work'd much cheaper than *England*; and yet no Restraint was put on her Trade: and also, now *Yorkshire* is become a great Woollen manufacturing part of the Kingdom, and work much cheaper than the West of *England*, the old manufacturing Part; yet the West desires no Restraint should be laid on *Yorkshire*.

But 'tis humbly supposed, as *Ireland* has already been greatly favour'd, by this Kingdom, in her Linnen, so 'tis possible, she may in her Woollen also: And yet instead of being a Loss to this Kingdom, its a general Gains to both; and instead as now, we reap no small Advantage, in making neat and cheap Goods for exportation, from *Irish* Yarn, that is now imported, we should then much more.

And *Ireland*, instead of gaining as now, by running her Wool and Yarn, to the Ruin of the Trade of this Kingdom, would gain much more by Trading with, and for us; by becoming subservient with her Wool and Yarn, to

the *British* Woolen Manufacture, for exportation; and *Great-Britain* not only thereby, secure her Trade for Time to come, but also be a great Yearly Gainer; and all effected by giving the present Interest of *Ireland* a new Bias, in our Favour, as 'tis now for our Rivals.

That Your HONOURS

May, in a due Light, see how much it would be to the mutual Advantages of both Kingdoms, and especially of this; with Submission, Please first to observe, by the under Estimate, how great our present Loss, or future Gains would be, in Proportion to our manufacturing and exporting the Goods; that 40,000 Packs of Wool, on a Medium, does make, computing the Charge of manufacturing, and fitting the Goods for exportation, at five times the first Value of the Wool, in Fleece (a general Method of computing it) or running the said 40,000 Packs of Wool, in Wool.

An Estimate of 40,000 Packs of Wool. *Viz.*

By exporting 40,000 Pack of Wool,					
when manufactur'd, at six Pound					
per Pack,	—	—	—	—	0240000
By manufacturing the 40,000 Pack,					
being five times the Value	—	—			1200000
By exporting 1,440,000 Pounds worth					
of Woolen Goods, suppose at but 50					
per Cent. for Freight, insident Ex-					
pence, and a reasonable Profit, &c.					
to the Merchant,	—	—	—	—	0720000
By his Majesty's Duty, at 20 per Cent.					
advalorum, on the 2,160,000 <i>l</i> , va-					
lue. of Merchandise, imported as					
Returns	—	—	—	—	0432000
The general Gains	—	—	—	—	2592000

But

But if the 40,000 Packs of Wool is run
 the Gains can be but the Value of
 the Wool. which is but ——— — 0240000
 And then our Loss by its being run, is 2352000
 —————
 2592000

'Tis evident, our present Loss is great, and future Gains would be greater; but there are some, that under the specious Name of Liberty, and that we are *English* Men, and therefore cannot bear the Thought of having Officers about our Houses: And tho' they cannot but acknowledge that a general Register is the only Means that can be effectual, yet find many Faults. *Viz.* That it will expose each Trader's Trade, and Substance in the World, to his Neighbour; forgetting 'tis a Friendly Register, not one by Force, that is now under Consideration, by which no Office will attend; and that the Register has nothing to do with the Goodness but only with the Weight of the rough Wool, either coarse or fine: And another *French* Objection is, fearing it would be a very great Means to put a Stop to the running in of Brandy and Teas; as that is, especially in *Ireland*, mostly the Returns for the Wool; and the same Avenue that lets the one out, does the other in; and that the Waste in Wool, will render a general Register ineffectual, tho' the Register takes no Notice of the Wool, but when rough.

How great our Yearly Loss is cannot be come at, but by a General Register, as 'tis not certain, by the Book of Entry, at the Custom-House,

House, how great the Value of Woolen Goods was in a full Trade, exported Yearly and now.

As Woolen Goods pay no Duty, there is not that Care in entring out, as to the Quantity, and nothing as to the Value; some are entred out, in old customary Names; others as new Drapery, of various Length; and as to the Value there, is 50 *per Cent.* difference, as to Goodness, and as to Colours, in Goods that bare one and the same Name, or fabrick; yet some Years past, it was deemed, we exported upwards of five Millions Value, Yearly, in Woolen Goods, but 'tis fear'd not more than three now, altho' some little Start now, to *Germany*, in Trade.

And no Certainty there can be, as to the Quantity of Wool grown, and run Yearly, but by a General Register; some making the Quantity grown Yearly, in *Great-Britain* and *Ireland*. to be 1,274,000 Packs of 240 futtle Pounds each, and 500,000 Packs run: Others 800,000 Packs grown, and 300,000 run out of both Kingdoms, not considering what quantity of Goods the least Number would make.

As 'tis safer to calculate rather under the Truth of Facts, 'tis from the Number of Sheep feeding Acres of Land, in each Kingdom; computed that in *Great-Britain* there is 430,000 Packs grown, and 40,000 run Yearly; and in *Ireland* one third, that is, 143,333 Packs grown, and not less than 50,000 Packs run, in Wool and Yarn, and 20,000 Packs in Woolen Goods; but fear out of both Kingdoms, not so little as 110,000 Packs run Yearly.

Your

That Your HONOURS,

May make some Estimate of *Ireland* present Gains by her Wool, and what it would be if her present Interest, had a new Bias gave it, in favour of our Woolen Exportation Trade, and how great our Gains would also be, the following Estimates are humbly offer'd.

As 'tis supposed that there grows in *Ireland* Yearly, not less than 143,333 Packs of Wool, each of 240 futtle Pounds, and supposing that there home Consumption Yearly, calls for 53,332 Pack, than there is 90,000 Pack more, that is not manufactured for there home Consumption Yearly, of that there is now 10,000 Pack exported to *Great-Britain*, in Wool and Yarn, and suppose not more than 20,000 Pack, is Run in Woolen Goods, and 10,000 Pack, is Run in Yarn to *France*, for the *French* will import as little Yarn as possible, so long as they can have Wool especially from *Ireland*, to intermix with their own, and the Remaining 50,000 Packs, is Run in Wool, Yearly; by which the two Accounts of present and future Gains to *Ireland* will stand as on the other Side.

Ireland's

Ireland's present Gains, contrary to Law.

By running 50,000 Packs of Wool, at 25 <i>per Cent.</i> advance Price, or forty in six pounds, that is at eight Pound <i>per Pack</i> — — — —	400,000
By running 10,000 Packs of Wool, in Yarn, at eight Pound <i>per Pack</i> —	080,000
By Spinning the 10,000 Packs of Wool, at ten Pound <i>per Pack</i> , on a medium,	100,000
By running 20,000 Packs of Wool, in Goods, at six Pound <i>per Pack</i> —	120,000
By manufacturing the 20,000 Packs, at five times the Value — — —	600,000
By running the 720,000 <i>l.</i> worth of Woolen Goods, suppose by the Re- turns 50 <i>per Cent.</i> Gains to pay Freight, &c — — — —	360,000
By his Majesty's Duty, of 20 <i>per Cent.</i> <i>ad valorem</i> , on 1,080,000 <i>l.</i> worth of Merchandise, if entred in, and paid	216,000
By exporting to <i>Great-Britain</i> , 500 Packs of Wool, in Wool, and 500 Packs of Wool, in Yarn, at six Pound <i>per Pack</i> the Wool — — —	060,000
By Spinning the 500 Packs of Yarn, at ten Pound <i>per Pack</i> , on a medium coarse and fine together, — — —	050,000
By entring out, the 10,000 Packs of Wool and Yarn, to <i>Great - Britain</i> , and Freight, and Lord Lieutenant's Fees, &c. — — — —	010,000
<i>Ireland's present general Gains</i> — — —	1,996,000

Ireland's

Ireland's future Gains, by Law.

By exporting to <i>Great-Britain</i> , 30,000 Packs of Wool, at six Pound ———	180000
By exporting to <i>ditto</i> , in Yarn, 40000 Packs of Wool, at six Pound ———	240000
By Spinning the 40000 Packs of Wool at ten Pound <i>per</i> Pack, on a medium	400000
By entring out to <i>Great-Britain</i> the 70000 Packs of Wool, their Freight and the Lord Lieutenant's Fees, &c.	070000
By exporting 20000 Packs of Wool, in Woolen Goods, at six Pound a Pack	120000
By manufacturing the said 20000 Packs at five times the Value ——— ———	600000
By exporting to Foreign Parts 720000 Pounds worth of Woolen Goods, suppose at 50 <i>per Cent.</i> in Returns—	360000
By his Majesty's Duty, at 20 <i>per Cent.</i> advalorem, on 1080000 Pound va- lue of Merchandise imported ———	216000
<i>Ireland's future Gains</i> ——— ——— ———	2186000

Should *Great-Britain*, indulge *Ireland*, as a Part of herself, and admit her to export in Goods Yearly, 20,000 Packs of her Wool, on Condition none be Run in Wool or Yarn, and that she will execute a general Register, in such Method, as should be agreeable to the Trade, and Satisfaction of *Great-Britain*, and export to *Great-Britain* Yearly, such of her Wool and Yarn, Spun in such sorts as may mostly be agreeable to *Great-Britain's* Demands

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in Trade; and as *Ireland* Works 20 *per* Cent, cheaper than *England*, it will be but common Justice, in order that the Merchants in *Great-Britain*, and *Ireland*, may stand on a Parr, as to the first Cost of their Goods, that therefore in *Ireland*, there be Paid by the Exporter, a Duty of 20 *per* Cent, on all Woolen Goods, exported, That is on the 600,000 Pounds earned, by Manufactory, and fitting the Goods for Exportation, which 20 *per* Cent, would be 120,000 Pounds, deducted out of the 2,186,000 Pounds, *Ireland's* future Gains would be but, 2,066,000 by which it would appear that *Ireland's* future Gains then by Law, would be 70,000 Pounds Yearly, more than now 'tis contrary to Law; besides the general Advantage to the Kingdom, by having the Sum of 2,066,000 Pounds Yearly circulating, threw the fair Traders Hands, and the Duty of 216,000 Pounds really Paid, to support the civil Government, and the Sum of 60000 Pounds in Freight Entry out, and Lord Lieutenant Fees, also by Law Paid, more than now, and *Great Britain's* future Gains as an additional Gains would not be small, as in part is as under, *viz.*

By Manufacturing the 30000 Packs	
of Wool imported from <i>Ireland</i> , —	00900,000
By Manufacturing the 40000 Packs	
of Yarn imported ——— ———	00800,000
	1,700,000

Which Sum of 1,700,000 Pounds being Gained by this Kingdom, bearily by Manufacturing, instead of loosing as now a much greater Sum, by its being Run; and also by its not being Run

Run, securing our Trade for time to come, must with Submission be worthy, the Consideration of Parliament, if no Regard is had therein, to the future welfare of this Kingdom; that such an Union in Trade would introduce; and also the preventing our Merchants being under Sold, for Time to come, no not by *Ireland*.

YOUR HONOURS,

Will Please to observe that 20 *per* Cent, proposed to be Paid in *Ireland*, as a Duty on the Woolen Goods, exported to set our Merchants and theirs on a Parr, as to the first Cost of their Goods, levying that Duty on the Value of the Goods Exported, would be attended with some Difficulty, as not easy to come at the Value of the Goods, when in the Merchants Hands; but levying it, at Eight Pence on each Pound weight of those Goods, when packt up in Bails, and entred out, and on the Key to be Ship't, would be attended with no Difficulty, nor Fraud, and raise the same Sum.

'Tis found by Experiment, that Wool in Manufacturing from the Fleece, to its being fully Manufactured, does waste one fourth Part, which some have ignorantly Attested, would Render a general Register, in the Account kept, absolutely ineffectual, not knowing that in executing a Friendly Register there will be no need of taking any Knowledge of the Weight of Wool, but when 'tis rough Wool; and as such weigh'd up to manufacture and yet absolutely more Effectual, than if done by Force, in an arbitrary Manner; as will fully appear to all un-biast Persons, that Examine the said friendly Register, when Exhibited. As

As Wool, does waste one Quarter, then the 20000 Packs of 240 fettle Pounds each, of rough Wool before Manufactured, is 4800,000 Pounds but when Manufactured and in Goods, will be but 3,600,000 futtle Pounds on a medium, which at Eight Pence each Pound, will be 120,000 Pound Sterling, the same at 20 *per* Cent, on the 600,000 Pound Earned, by Manufacturing the 20,000 Packs of Wool would be.

The said Duty Paid in *Ireland*, would be no less to that Kingdom, as it would center there; only change Hands and promote the general Welfare, as 'tis humbly Proposed, the said 120,000 Pounds should be expended in the Method under, *viz.*

- 35,000 Pounds a Part thereof, to Pay the Charge of Executing a general Register in *Ireland*.
- 45,000 Pounds a Part thereof, as a Bounty of Eight *per* Cent, on the Money Earned, by Spinning Yarn to be Exported, to *Great Britain*, to encourage the Spinning.
- 20,000 Pounds a Part thereof, to be Exported in Yarn to *Great-Britain* Yearly, to Pay a Part of the Charge, of a general Register, in that Kingdom.
- 20,000 Pounds the remaining Part of the 120,000 Pounds, to be Paid to the Commissioners, that have the Care of the Linnen Manufactory in *Ireland*, to be expended in such a Manner, as may mostly be to promote that Manufactory, for the general Advantage of that Kingdom.

By thus **Blending**, the Interest of the Linnen with the Woolen, in *Ireland*, would make it the Interest of that Kingdom in General, and of every Subject in particular, that no Wool be Run, and even the Clandestine Trader, would soon find their Account, therein also.

And **Blending** the Interest of *Ireland*, with the Trading Interest of *Great-Britain*, would make it their Interest of both, to promote each the other; and the greater the Demands are of our Merchant, at the Foreign Markets for Woolen Goods, the greater will the Demands be, of our Manufacturers on *Ireland*, for her Wool and Yarn; and the greater the mutual Traders is with each other, the more Cash will be Earned, and Circulated in both Kingdoms, through the fair Traders Hands, which would Increase a good Understanding, and mutual Affection for each the other Kingdoms.

As Self Preservation is essential to the future Welfare of Kingdoms, 'tis certainly our Duty and Interest, to use our utmost Power in the Discharge thereof, and with Submission, what Kingdom does more than *France*: Therefore as preventing the Running our Wool, would enrich this Kingdom, as well as *Ireland*, and certainly on the contrary affect our Rivals, in a very sensible Part, it would be no more than Self Preservation to prevent its being Run.

The Method humbly Proposed, to Execute the general Register in, is different in *Ireland*, to that for *Great-Britain*, yet both in a Friendly pleasing Method, not by Force but by Consent; agreeable to the Temper, and Method of Trade in each Kingdom, and absolutely free, from any private advantage to be made by any one

one Person or Body of Men, seperate from the general Welfare of each respective Kingdom.

And in *Great-Britain*, in such a Method as to be, as the Act of the whole Body of Traders, concerned in the Woolen Manufactory, from the Farmers, the Wool Growers, to the Merchants that export the Goods; and no Person to be employed in executing the general Register, but such chose by the general Sufferance of all such in the Kingdom.

And their joint Consent with Submission, would be collected in a easy Method, and the whole Charge of executing the general Register, not a Penny to the Government, and but a very small Charge not deserving that Name, to any one Subject, and rather a Help than a Burden to Trade, or any one Subject, except the clandestine Trader.

Your HONOURS,

Are apprised of two Presidents of Power, that Time past was gave to the Subjects, to put the Laws in Execution, against Running of Wool, &c. The one by a Patent, from King *James* the II, the other by an Act of Parliament, the first of King *William* and Queen *Mary*, and the Preamble of that Act, declares the Cause, which still Subsisteth, viz. The Remisness of the Publick Officers.

And by a Report made by the Commissioners of the Custom-House, to the King and Counsel 1689, and to a Committee of Parliament, in the Year 1730-1. It appears that the Custom-House, and Excise-Officers, have full Business on their Hands.

And

And granting a Power to the Trading Subject, to put the Laws in execution, against the Running of Wool, &c. And to execute a general Register, would no way lessen the Power, in the Publick Officers, only ease them, in what they make no Profit; and would be much the same, as is granted to every incorporated Company; empowering them to secure and encourage, by all Lawful Ways and Means, their incorporated Interest at their own Charge, and by their own Servants, and thereby the general Interest of the Kingdom, and in this Case, must very much increase His Majesty's Revenue.

YOUR HONOURS,

Will also please to observe how prevalent Self-Interest is even in publick Bodies, to endeavour to impose on others; a pregnant Instance thereof, was about 40 Years past, the Bone-Lace-Makers in this Kingdom, Petitioned the Parliament, that Foreign Bone-Lace, might be Prohibited, and it was Prohibited; they having set out in their Petition, that they employ'd more Hands then the Woolen Manufactory did, in the whole Kingdom.

The Result of that Prohibition was, the Prohibition Abroad, in those Parts where the Foreign Bone Lace is made, of all *English* Woolen Goods; which Prohibition we feel the Effects of to this Day; that giving such Incouragement to the *French* Woolen Manufactory, and they finding the Sweets thereof, have held it more or less, ever since.

The Woolen Manufacturers in this Kingdom, making Application to Parliament, the Prohibition

bition on the Lace was took off; and also that Abroad, in two or three Years, on our Woolen Goods: And it appear'd, that even the County of *Wilts*, employ'd by the Woolen Manufactory, more Hands than all the Lace-Makers in the Kingdom:

And but few Years past, those concern'd in the Linen Manufactory, in this Kingdom, which Manufactory deserves Incouragement, yet they imprudently endeavour'd to impose on the Public, attesting that they employ'd more Hands than the Woolen Manufacturers; forgetting, that even the Manufacturers of Wool, in the City of *London* and *Norwich*, made it appear, when they petition'd against the wearing of printed Callicoes, that they employ'd upwards of 300,000 Hands: How great then, in a full Trade, must be the number of Hands, employ'd in the whole Kingdom!

The Scheme for a General Friendly Register, in *Great-Britain*, humbly prays, that a Power may be gave to all Subjects in this Kingdom, that keep, or deal, in Sheep or Lambs, or their Skins with the Wool on, and all that Buy or Sell, or Deal in Wool, or Woolen Yarn, and all Manufacturers thereof, and all Dealers in Woolen Goods, and all Merchants that export Woolen Goods for them, in an incorporated Capacity, to meet at each respective City or Market Town, most near their respective Habitations, and there make Choice of a certain number of themselves, to be, and become a Court of Assistance, for that City, Town, and District; to be fixt for each City and Market-Town, in the Kingdom; to take Care of putting the Laws against running Wool, &c. and ex-

ecuting

ecuting the General Register, by all needful Servants under them, for that District.

And also by the general Suffrage, from each such Court of Assistance, to choose five or seven of themselves, to be Commissioners; to take the Care of the Accounts kept, and Management of a General Office for the whole Kingdom; to be fixt in *London* or *Westminster*, with needful Clerks under them.

The Account to be kept Weekly, and every four Weeks; and the Year to end the last Saturday in *March*, and a general Account of the whole, to be laid before his Majesty and both Houses of Parliament, Yearly.

And all Cash collected in each District, for each City and Market-Town, after all Sallaries and necessary Expences are there discharged, to be by the said respective Court of Assistance, remitted to the general Office, for the Kingdom, and deposited in the Bank; and not to be drawn out but by a Warrant, under the Hands, of at least three of the said Commissioners, one of them to be the first or second Commissioner.

The Yearly Charge in *Great-Britain*, to each Subject concerned in the Woolen Manufactory, and Tradesmen proposed to be incorporated, would be no more than one, two, or three Shillings, each Quarter; and that at his own Election, in what Class of Trade he shall think best to stand in; either that of a small, a middling, or great Dealer, or Trader: Unless it be a few Gentlemen Landholders, large Manufacturers, Dealers, or Merchants that export the Woolen Goods; and each of such that are chose as the Court of Assistance, at the respec-

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tive

five City and Market-Towns, each those large Traders, and Dealers, to Pay each Quarter Five Shillings, a charge.

That will not deserve that Name, if the Woolen Exportation Trade in this Kingdom, is worth preserving, and especially so, as by this Scheme there is nothing more to be Paid, in the whole method of Registring but only one Penny once a Year, for each Pack of Wool, when shorne from the Sheep, and pull'd from the Skins kill'd.

The Scheme for a general Register in *Ireland*, is also in a friendly Method, agreeable to that Kingdom, and done at no Charge to the Government there, yet no Burden to Trade, nor Charge in particular to the Traders, and yet to the general Advantage of the Trade, of both Kingdoms.

The whole to be under the Care of nine Commissioners, at a general Office to be fixt in *Dublin*, four of which Commissioners to be chose in *Great-Britain*, in the same Method as the Commissioners for the general Office in that Kingdom; and the Five Commissioners to chose in *Ireland*, by the incorporated Company there, at a meeting in *Dublin* and those chose in *Great-Britain*, and those in *Ireland*, to be such that are, or have been Woolen Manufacturers, and the nine so chose, with proper Clerks under them, to have the sole Power of choosing a certain Number of Traders in Wool, &c. To be as a Court of Assistance at each City, and Market-Towns; and all Registers, and Sworn-Winders, and Riding, and Foot Inspectors, and also of a certain Number of proper Subjects

to be Masters of Spinning-Skeels, as humbly Proposed in that Scheme.

The said nine Commissioners, being im-power'd by all those to be chose and appointed under them, to put the Laws in Execution, against running of Sheeps, Sheep-Skins, with the Wool on Wool and Woolen Yarn, and Woolen Goods, and to Execute the said Friendly general Register, on the Conditions therein, humbly Proposed.

The Account thereof be kept Weekly, and each fourth Week; The Year to end the last *Saturday in March*, and a general Account of the whole to be Laid before His Majesty, and both House of Parliament in that Kingdom, and also in this, and whatever Cash comes to the said Commissioners Hands, to be deposited in some one substantial Bankers Hands, in *Dublin*; and not drawn out unless by a Warrant, under at least three Commissioners Hands, and one of them, to be one of them chose in *Ireland*.

With the greatest Submission, the general Exportation Trade of *Great-Britain*, and particularly her Woolen, is in a declining state, or 'tis not; and her Woolen Exportation Trade have been, and is the Grand Source of this Kingdom's Wealth and Power, as thereby so many other valuable Manufacturies have been introduced, and are yet carried on, and our Rents Paid, or 'tis not, and no Method will or can Restore and Secure, our Woolen Exportation Trade for Time to come, but preventing the Exporting out of this Kingdom, and *Ireland*, all Wool and Woolen Yarn unmanufactured, or
will

will not ; and no Means so effectual, as a general Register in each Kingdom, or 'tis not ; and such a general Register that is Executed, most agreeable to the Method of Trade, in a Friendly Way, not by Force, free of all Private Self Intrested Views, (separate from the general Welfare of this Trading Kingdom,) and done at least Charge, and done as the general Act of the Traders and Dealers, in Sheep, in Wool, and Woolen Goods, from the Wool Growers, to the Merchants, that export the Goods, will be most pleasing and agreeable, or it will not.

Therefore with Submission, if Your Honour should think, as the humble *English* Woolen Manufacturers does ; That Release to this Trading Kingdom cannot be administered too soon, he humbly prays, it may come under Your Consideration ; and by the Wisdom and Power of the Parliament effected, in, and by such Method, as may be most meet.

A General that does distress his Enemy and save himself, 'tis deemed his Honour and Wisdom,

Cash, the Sinews of War, must be supplied from some Fund ; if that Fund be by Trade, then stopping up the Grand Canal, that supplies that Trade, must be very distressing to those whose Fund it is.

As every ten Pounds worth of Wool, run out of either Kingdom, especially *Ireland*, is 100 Pound loss to this Kingdom ; then every ten Pounds worth, prevented being Run, would prevent our grand Rival in Trade, putting into their fund at least 90 Pounds, and help this Kingdom to put into her Fund, 100 Pounds more then now, which may on some Consideration

ration, be to this Kingdom 190 Pound difference to what 'tis now.

Self-preservation, as 'tis every Kingdoms Right, with Submission, can any Time be more proper, to prevent the running of ours and the *Irish* Wool; as that would at once revive, inlarge, and secure, not only our Woolen Exportation, but also our Exportation Trade in general, the grand Springs that supplies our grand Fund, for every Emergency; in Time of Peace and War, the grand Source of all our Wealth and Power.

Would Your HONOURS (with the greatest Submission) suffer one general Thought to take Place, as the Natives of *Ireland* are by descent *Britons*, and the Kingdom always deemed a *British* Island, and under our Laws, so long: And considering where it stands, and the many fine Rivers, and Sea-Ports in that Island; and how capable, by its Native Wealth, and Situation, of great Improvements: And if add the covitous Eye of our Neighbours, that have been on it, and the great Expence it has cost, more than once, to restore it; would not with Submission, securing that Island from Danger, at all Events, by a closer Union with this, greatly add to the Weight in the Scale of this Kingdom's Riches, Power, and Strength on all Occasions, in *Christendom*.

An Island so near, and in our Power near six hundred Years, and often Attempts to wrest it out of our Hands; and yet not peopled more with Protestants; the *English* and *Scots* there, now settled, are not much more than one sixth part of the other Inhabitants.

The

The Protestants Subjects in that Kingdom, have been always zealously Affected to the Civil Government of this Kingdom; for which they have suffer'd greatly, more than once: And when they consider how numerous their fellow Subjects are, and that they are Papists, and reflect back on that Tragical Year 1641, and the Danger threatned 1688, can hardly think themselves absolutely safe; notwithstanding their fellow Subjects, the Papists, are now so very easy.

Therefore wish that those of them that may be well inclin'd, had more opportunity, to hear what the Protestant Religion is, there being many Parishes in that Kingdom, where the Protestant Clergy, do not Preach once in a Year, not withstanding some of them, receive the Income of more then two or three Parishes, therefore wish their Zeal, to propegate the Protestant Religion in *Ireland*, was one half as great as the *Romish* Priest, of Popery, in *Great-Britain*.

The Natives of *Ireland*, are general a courteous People, and might be won by a generous Conduct; some now may be deem'd a Part of the Loyal Subjects, and there is more then a bare Probability, that a closer Union of that Kingdom, with this would produce as happy Effects, respecting the Natives as the happy Union with *Scotland*, have respecting their Highlanders, even a Union in Trade, would do great Things.

How

How pleasing to our fellow Subject, the Protestants in that Kingdom, and to all in this Kingdom, that have Lands, or Friends in *Ireland*, would such a Union be; at once it would give a deadly Wound to all Hopes, that any may have of intruding on, or destroying our Religion, Trade and Liberty, in that, and this Kingdom.

F I N I S.





